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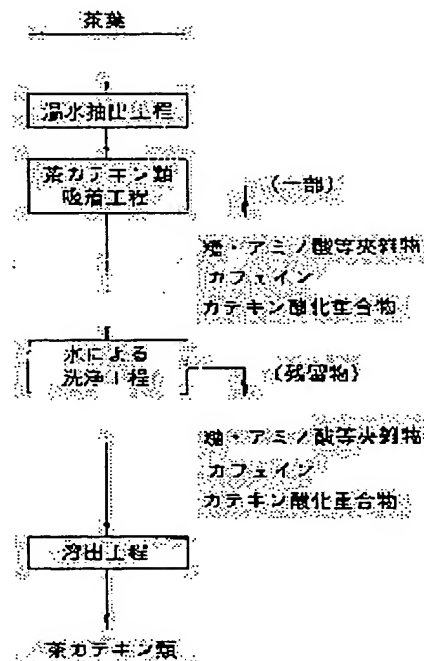
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(54) PRODUCTION OF TEA CATECHINS

(57)Abstract:

PURPOSE: To produce tea catechins of high purity in low costs in an industrial scale safely from food-hygienic point of view by removing saccharides, amino acids and other contaminants, caffeine and catechin oxidative polymerization products without use of liquid-liquid extraction process.

CONSTITUTION: The production process comprises (A) the extraction of tea from tea leaves, (B) adsorption of the tea catechins to a chromatography column filled with a synthetic gel absorbent, (C) washing of the column with water to remove water-soluble contaminants including at least caffeine, and (D) the elution of the components remaining in the column with an aqueous solution containing 50 to 100vol. one kind among methanol, ethanol and acetone or a mixture thereof.



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